

RARE OLD PHOTOGRAPH DISCOVERED—This long-lost and rare old photograph of the great Mormon pioneer leader, Brigham Young, with 21 of his 27 wives, was recently found in a Payson home.

Found in Payson Home

Provo Herald Sun 22 July 1956

Mormon Pioneer History Recalled With Discovery Of Rare Old Photograph

Editor's note: Phyllis Phillips, society editor of The Daily Herald, is the daughter of Mrs. Edith Y. Booth, referred to in the following article, and a great-granddaughter of Brigham Young. Her information on the rare old recently-discovered photograph described in this article was gathered first hand from her mother and from family archives. For those unfamiliar with Mormon history, it should be noted that the Mormon Church officially discontinued polygamy in 1890.)

By PHYLLIS PHILLIPS

All Utahns this week will have their awareness of Utah's history sharpened as towns and cities stage celebrations honoring and recalling the entry of the first Mormon pioneers into Salt Lake Valley 109 years ago.

Since Utah's history is so much the history of the men who successfully led the Mormon migration to the area and the settlement by the pioneer families of an arid desert country, the recent discovery in Payson of a rare photograph of Brigham Young and 21 of his 27 wives adds interest to the memories and stories of those people and events.

From Postcard

The picture, above, is reproduced from a postcard which was found in a trunk belonging to Mrs. Henrietta Douglas of Payson by her niece, Mrs. C. E. Stevenson. Mr. Stevenson, a professional photographer, photographed the card and reproduced the photo.

The Stevensons contacted Mrs. Edith Young Booth and Mrs. Beatrice Young Booth, Provo sisters who are granddaughters of Brigham Young, who were greatly pleased to have the picture for their family histories.

According to Mrs. Booth, many of these pictures were sold at one time to tourists on postcards, but they have become increasingly rare over the years.

Wives Pictured

Among the pictured wives are Emily Partridge Young, considered by most of the family, to be the best-looking wife, according to Mrs. Booth. She is great-grandmother of former Bishop Richmond Young of Provo and S. Dilworth Young, now a member of the Council of Seventies.

Another picture is that of Harriet Cook Campbell Young, grandmother of Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Moore, and of Kimball Young, prominent educator of Evanston, Illinois.

Also shown are Lucy Bigelow Young, mother of Susa Young Gates and grandmother of Leah Dunford Widstoe and Emma Lucy Gates Bowen; Zina Hunt-

ington Young, mother of Zina Young Card and grandmother of Mrs. Hugh B. Brown and Mrs. Edwin R. (Mary Brown) Firmage; Margaret Pierce Young, grandmother of Attorney Gaylen Young of Salt Lake City; and Harriet Amelia Folsom Young, usually regarded as "the favorite wife," at least in Brigham Young's later years.

Played at Lion House

Mrs. Booth knew many of the wives of her grandfather including Zina Huntington, Emily Partridge, Lucy Bigelow, Harriet Cook Campbell, Amelia Folsom, Eliza Burgess and Naamah K. J. Carter. She at one time stayed at the Lion House, Brigham Young's home, with her grandmother where she and other grandchildren rode the carved lions on the steps, pretending they were horses.

According to the compilation of Mabel Young Sanborn, a daughter of the distinguished churchman, Brigham Young had a total of 27 wives. He had 25 sons and 31 daughters, all of whom lived to maturity with exception of eight sons and two daughters who died in infancy.